

## *From the Editor*

Army Transformation has quickly evolved from concept to organization to hardware, as the Army has decided to arm the interim brigade combat teams with the eight-wheeled Light Armored Vehicle (LAV) III. Speed has always been central to the entire program, and LAV's 60-mph capability on roads and flat surfaces is a primary source of tactical responsiveness and protection. Strategically, the LAV's relatively light weight of 19 tons allows aircraft to carry more of them than the inventory's tracked vehicles. But do the other services have the speed to deploy brigades and divisions within mere days?

A troubling mismatch remains between Army goals and Air Force capabilities. With a surge dedicated solely to the Army's needs, aircraft could transport enough equipment to move a brigade in 96 hours, but the one- and five-division targets may exceed current capacity. The Navy is better able to haul masses of Army equipment—just not fast enough for the frenetic demands of the international landscape. Perhaps it is time to revisit the existing swift and efficient wing-in-ground technology (*Military Review* July/August 00). Regardless of the transportation mode, transportation strategy and traffic management will maximize combat power in places from Bosnia to East Timor.

With the Army's emerging role as an expeditionary force, theater commanders assume greater, more immediate roles as links between national policy and military operations. As events unfold on the international and domestic fronts, military leaders at all levels must reach out to link with the society they serve and the nations they support. A growing Army challenge is balancing that need to connect and remain relevant with the continuing mission to socialize soldiers and impart transcendent martial values. These changes are not easy, and standing still is not possible. We live in interesting times.

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